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## ROYAL COMMISSION INQUIRY INTO LABOUR DISPUTES

3630

## HEARINGS HELD AT WINDSOR

VOL. NO.

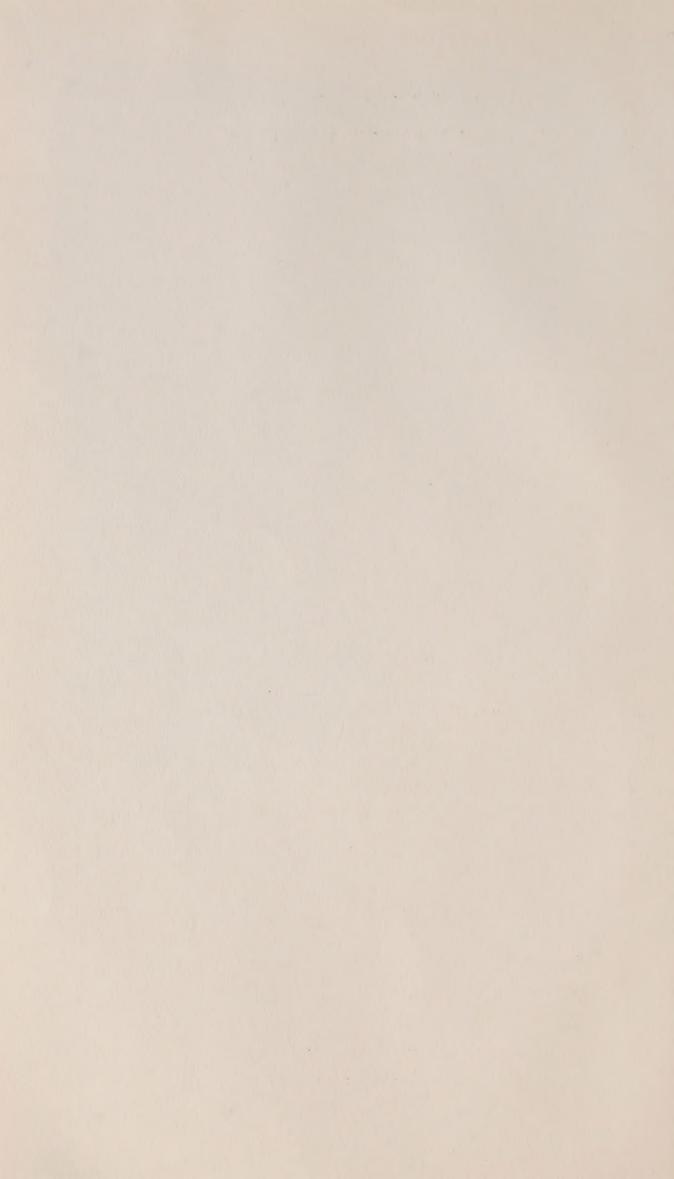
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IN THE MATTER OF The Public Inquiries Act, R.S.O. 1960, Chapter 323

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF an Inquiry into Labour Disputes

BEFORE: The Honourable Ivan C.
Rand, Commissioner, at
the Essex County Courthouse, Windsor, Ontario,
on Wednesday, March 29th, 1967.

E. Marshall Pollock

Counsel to the Commission

## APPEARANCES:

## Windsor and District Labour Council

Mr. Cuthbert Andrews
" Leon MacPherson

President

Charles J. Clark, Q.C.,

Counsel for the Windsor Chamber of Commerce.

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Windsor, Ontario,
Wednesday, March 29
1967.

--- At 10:10 A.M., the hearing commenced.

MR. POLLOCK: We have the Windsor Chamber of
Commerce. I recognize Mr. Clark and now Mr. Leon MacPherson and Mr. Cuthbert Andrews who is President of the Wind-

I take it that you, Mr. Clark, are the spokes-

MR. CLARK: I am, Mr. Pollock.

MR. POLLOCK: We have both read the brief and we are impressed by its brevity, and some of the points you raised in it. So we leave the matter of presentation to yourself, whether you want to read the brief and/or deal with the points.

MR. CLARK: Mr. Commissioner and Mr. Pollock, I would like to follow the latter suggestion. I do not think it is necessary to read it.

I think it stresses three areas, 1, it is in close support of the brief of the Board of Directors of the Ontario Chamber and the Windsor Board stands firm in the matter of interim injunctions. The last point is one of a general nature but it is that we have concern for the public interest. That, perhaps, is the strongest area of concern to this chamber.

I think it fair to say that in a community such as this, quite apart from what we think of in terms of essential industry like transportation companies, and utilities, where you have a large employer and there is an extended strike situation, it affects the whole

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community and the public is concerned with this.

So the Chamber is, without being specific, urging that if there are recommendations for legislative change, that the public interest must be safeguarded.

THE COMMISSIONER: How would you define more specifically the elements of public interest?

MR. CLARK: Well, I think this is very difficult, Mr. Commissioner. Certainly we could start with utilities but where you draw the line -- where you get by this from a public utility into the area of private industry where still the public is concerned -- I am afraid you can't draw the line.

THE COMMISSIONER: It is generalized as you say. The public is interested in every means of production of goods and that is what seems to be lacking, but how far would you go in the interests of that? What are the factors in strike action which directly clash with public interest, such as order?

MR. CLARK: Well, I think this is a matter of grave concern, where there is disorder and disrespect for the law, for this is bound to have its effect on the whole community.

Something must be done so that in strike situations there is obedience to the law, otherwise you have a community where the whole order of things breaks down. You will recall, I am sure, back in the thirties when we had a troublesome situation here, where strike action took place and the streets were blocked and the strikers interfered with private automobiles and property and so forth. This is the sort of thing which we believe must

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be stopped.

Now, I have heard it suggested that perhaps we should prohibit picketing and likewise we should, in some way, tie the hands of the employer during the period of this dispute.

MR. CLARK: My own view is, and it would be a personal one, that you have to make some exceptions first, for example there may be third parties affected and while I don't think this is a major aspect, you do have situations where an employer may be supplying power to some one else, or water. I think we must protect that.

THE COMMISSIONER: What is your opinion?

I would, personally, and I express this as a personal view, if we have that situation where we prohibit striking and the normal operations of the employer can carry on for a period, that would be effective, but not for too long a period in my own judgment. Then, perhaps, possibly following that period a compulsory arbitration.

THE COMMISSIONER: Why do you think it would not be long?

MR. CLARK: Well, in my experience I think you have both Labour unions and employers opposed to compulsory arbitration, opposed to arbitration with respect to the terms of an agreement. They are both opposed to it.

Now it seems to me that they fear that you are going to have an outside party come in and impose upon them a settlement, so if you have a period of thirty days or sixty days this will, or should, contribute to bargaining, because we have that situation happening today.

You will find that the larger employers in





this city, when you get to conciliation board stage, the Labour unions certainly say the Conciliation Board will be of no use to us. They don't want any outside party and would sit down to effective bargaining.

THE COMMISSIONER: It is a fact that under conciliation a great many controversies that reach that stage have ended there, our statistics show that.

MR. CLARK: Certainly, I am all in favour of the conciliation proceeding. I wouldn't want to see it taken away, but what has happened with a few large employers is that they think the Conciliation Board is a thing of the past.

The unions want to get the employer into a strike position and to get themselves into a strike position at the earliest time to exert pressure on the employer.

MR. POLLOCK: And the employer wants to get them in a strike position at the end of a model year, when there would be little pressure on them.

MR. CLARK: That is right, and if you follow that through and if this is so it is a disaster. If you put them in the position where the employee cannot strike and the employer doesn't operate for a period, it may contribute to more effective bargaining.

THE COMMISSIONER: It may end in the acceptance of an arbitrary award, that has happened in this city.

MR. CLARK: That is right.

THE COMMISSIONER: So there is a limit to the exercise of what they call their economic powers? One is losing wages and the other is losing profit.

MR. CLARK: They are not the only lcser.



and the public interest has been disregarded or overlooked too long, but what I wanted your view on was the tendency if, for instance, these two features would show up more prominently than any other — the picket line and the employment of men who are ordinarily strike breakers — whether they could be dealt with to eliminate some of certainly the disagreeable consequences of a strike, and at the same time leave these antagonists, if that is what they desire to call themselves, to fight in nakedness so they will have to rely on their own strength, whatever it may be.

As a matter of fact this is present in the case of large scale industry, large scale industry has to close.

MR. CLARK: They do not operate.

THE COMMISSIONER: There is no occasion, therefore, for any picket line. The object has been accomplished, the cessation of work has stopped the work. So it is in the smaller industries that any serious question can arise.

Suppose you had in addition to these things, a highly responsible tribunal that could modify conditions where there was obviously an inequality; where you had the justice on one side but no economic strength, and in the discretionary margin an adjustment of the inequality might be given.

MR. CLARK: Are we thinking, sir, after the expiration of the collective agreement? We believe the two sides have attempted to bargain but not effectively,





and they can't get together, that you impose this sort of thing. Someone who could move into the picture at that stage and really effect an agreement, is that the subject we would be talking about?

THE COMMISSIONER: He would not be effecting the agreement but modifying the conditions that would ultimately tend to be coercive on the parties, indirectly on them, to arrive at a settlement.

You must remember even today there is undergoing in this country a hearing on compulsory arbitration, which has been selected by the union as against the efforts of conciliation. That is present today in the railway case and in a number of unions. So I think the trouble is we allow some of these words to have an abnormal and unnecessary weight in our judgment. If you go to some other countries you won't find them being terrified by the word "compulsory" at all.

MR. CLARK: No.

THE COMMISSIONER: They have been acclimated to it and they look upon it as objective and that is all.

You cannot compel men to work and that is one thing we have to agree to. Then the only thing the community can do is to say, "If you refuse to abide by the verdict of the community you cannot claim the benefits the community gave." In that way you can adjust the conduct of the individuals, where that conduct is related to the generosities or the sense of justice to the community.

MR. CLARK: Do you leave the employer in the meantime?

THE COMMISSIONER: In the first place, you have



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to recognize we are considering this on the basis of private enterprise. So far as it exists today there is no strict private enterprise in any sense of the word. The money we are paying in this country for the assistance to enterprise is enormous, so the government is interested, not only the public, and we have to recognize that our attitudes in a community, our social attitudes including economic attitudes have undergone a transformance. There is no question about that. But we have not worked out a philosophy which gives rational justification for changing attitudes, and one question immediately arises and that is what do you think is the relation of a workman to his place of employment?

MR. CLARK: Well, his relation at the present moment, up until the present time, has simply been the place where he could perform his work or services for compensation, and it is doubtful that he has been considered as part of the plant or the employer in any respect.

THE COMMISSIONER: That is so, and out of what social or other condition did that necessarily arise? Go back two or three centuries and you get the source of it, or beyond that, because it was the individual who with his enterprise and initiative started this, or it might have been his inheritance.

MR. CLARK: Can we go to the other side of it? I am sure you have had the experience where incentive programmes have been offered to employees and you have had the trade union movement generally opposed to such plans. Surely with an incentive arrangement for employees





that.

deavour that this is good, but you find the trade union movement opposed to it.

THE COMMISSIONER: Even in Russia they had to abandon the sense of equalization and they are now award-

who stand to gain by a greater interest in a field of en-

abandon the sense of equalization and they are now awarding a man according to his employment. They have a plan
and I have forgotten the name but it is in existence today,
but that is not exactly what I am seeking. I want a philosophical basis which will give today the true sense of
what society is demanding in relations between the employer
and employee.

MR. CLARK: I will defer to Mr. MacPherson on

THE COMMISSIONER: There is no doubt what you describe is the source of the 19th century and it was present there because it was the individual enterprise.

We are no longer in the days of individual enterprise.

We are private enterprise fundamentally and it consists in the management for the good of many, which is the staff, not the individual.

MR. MacPHERSON: With the mass production efforts and automation and I must confess I am not that close to it, but we are sometimes gathering the impression the employers have not been able to encourage the employees in that climate. There is something missing.

THE COMMISSIONER: Take yourself with twenty or thirty years in a key industry. How do you look upon the doors you have entered for that many years? How do you look upon the activities? How do you look upon the company when you see somebody in your place?



MR. MacPHERSON: I would be pretty upset if I saw someone taking my place after twenty-five or thirty years.

THE COMMISSIONER: I think we all would.

MR. MacPHERSON: Exactly.

attitudes because of the changing society, our population, the virtual monopolization of functions, the increase in technology which enables a man almost to control the whole operation of Ontario Hydro Electric. With the skill he possesses it might result in one-man control, so what would happen if he says, "I won't give my services because I am unjustly dealt with."

MR. MacPHERSON: What you are saying is we have a real marriage between the workers who perform the services and management who may be limited to small numbers.

THE COMMISSIONER: And when you spplement that by the educational processes we are paying hundreds of millions of dollars for, you will see why it has become necessary that people are being introduced to new ideas.

I don't want to monopolize this conversation.

MR. POLLOCK: I think Mr. MacPherson is very happy.

any time he asks for. I am suggesting these things to you, not as matters that are settled. We certainly are changing in our outlook of society. Here you have the government -- some governments build a factory almost, equip it with machines and then are placing people in to run it, for what purpose? To give employment. We settled on a





policy of full employment. That is a tremendous multiplication of our whole outlook and attitude. Where are you going to reconcile that with the past and with the present legislation that we have?

MR. CLARK: Only by recognizing the employees as part of this enterprise. There is no question about that now, but then you must bring in some outside -- not force -- but outside influence as you have suggested, sir, and it can be on either side where there are unreasonable positions taken.

THE COMMISSIONER: I don't think there is any doubt about that. We have to submit to the judgment of others in other relations in life.

MR. CLARK: I would like to come to the business of appointing someone and who that person might be or whom they might be, in order to perform that function, and lead up to the -- that leads us into the area of arbitration and the chairmanship of conciliation boards today.

I have a feeling that in Ontario the County

Court Bench should be extended, that their jurisdiction

should be enlarged to include this very thing. My own

view is that judges who are engaged in many other cases

and who also do this labour work are much better for it,

than if a person sat on Labour Relations matters alone.

I feel the jurisdiction could be enlarged to take care of this and I can give you -- there has been an argument that judges should not be sitting on arbitration boards and conciliation boards because one party is not satisfied with the result, and it brings the judge into disrepute and so forth. I don't agree with that at all.





I had a situation where I am satisfied I was entitled to an interim injunction on an exparte basis. The judge did not grant it, but he got in touch with the union people as a result of which they took steps to permit the entry into the plant, to do the thing we wanted to do to protect the property. I disagree with the judge. I think he should have given the injunction, but it does indicate to me where a man in authority, a judge, where he speaks to people they will take some direction and accept a decision he makes.

THE COMMISSIONER: I would accept that, but not a judge in the ordinary sense of the word, because it depends upon really the qualification of the man himself, and in other places that very intimate relation you mention is being exercised today.

MR. CLARK: Yes, well I think it would be a big problem in the appointment of a man.

THE COMMISSIONER: I agree with that.

MR. CLARK: To perform this function and handle these matters. We must have people who are accepted by all of the parties concerned, but the appointment would give me some trouble as well.

Well-qualified people could come from the ranks of trade unions or from the ranks of employers and serve in this capacity, but I don't just believe -- maybe I am naive about this -- but once put in the position the people involved, the interested parties, would accept them.

THE COMMISSIONER: This is interesting. In the experience in some of the states in Australia, not all,



but certain men who have gone up through the ranks of labour are preferred by the employers, to those who have been placed because they came out of employer relations.

MR. CLARK: Preferred for what reason?

THE COMMISSIONER: For their objectivity of judgment and for his virtues. So there is a certain coerciveness in office. If you have a proper conception of the responsibilities then it is bound to develop within the individual a detachment from personal views, or things of that sort, that might influence his judgment.

MR. CLARK: Would you not think they should be on the level of judges?

THE COMMISSIONER: I agree with that. That is exactly the standard of many of the officers in Australia. They must be qualified to attend in the Supreme Court.

MR. CLARK: I am not suggesting lawyers and judges.

THE COMMISSIONER: I didn't suggest at all that you can have a lopsided education. They must have a well-rounded education. They must be specially trained. The arbitrator is a peculiar man, he is not bound by one point of view or perspective. It is to enlarge that to three hundred and sixty degrees as against forty-five degrees which is the problem of education.

MR. CLARK: Would the appointments be made by the Ontario Government?

THE COMMISSIONER: In speculation, yes, they would be, but they could be given good advice by different organizations on both sides. You can size up a man fairly well. This is only a speculative matter, but I would like



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to get the views on this thinking about these matters. do not know anything more important in our whole society than this question arising out of economic relations as well as social relations.

MR. POLLOCK: If we can go back and pick up a hanging question. The question was, "At what stage would this type of tribunal go into operation?" I tread on dangerous ground in trying to interpret what I think the matter is. If you could say that at a given stage, at the level that you speak or spoke earlier, where you have negotiated and failed to reach an agreement and everybody is at the strike stage, then one party who is obviously economically weak or he would prefer to go on strike and weather the storm, would apply to the tribunal to say for example the other party hasn't bargained in good faith, if we can ever find out what that means; or justice is on his side but economics aren't. The tribunal might perhaps have power to modify the position. That was suggested this morning with no strike breakers and no pickets.

There may be a modification saying you can bring in people to supplement your work force if the union is unreasonable, and not dealing fairly; or the other situation would be if the company is unfair the union may have some advantage to try and balance off this very difficult equation. That, I think, answers your question. Maybe with that information you can answer the Commissioner's question.

MR. CLARK: It would be available on application to either party at a stage when they were at an impasse, and we would be, during this period, in a no



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strike position. In a no lock out and no strike position.

MR. POLLOCK: You can't be at that stage at the strike stage. If you want to make your application you may have to do it fairly rapidly while the strike is going on. It should not be able to be used as delaying tactics for one side or the other.

a tribunal of that sort at any time. In fact, in certain states of Australia they have what seems to me at the moment a very valuable means of meeting the troubles at the outset. You take the Commissioner under that system. The Commissioner is a well equipped man, he is a man of ability and judgment, and his intimate relations with both the employer and employee is part of the strength of that relation. His days are interesting in some cases, in some states rather, the Commissioner is given say a dozen industries which are specially allocated to him and he becomes very familiar with the whole operations of these and he will necessarily develop sound judgment about questions that arise in dispute and that sort of thing.

His relation is such the moment any difficulty of that sort arises he can then call it in question. He can go to the plant, if necessary, and he can see that the small annoyances which may accumulate into a serious conflict are scrunched at the outset. That is the type of man I had in view, and the type of tribunal. It will call for men of first-class quality.

MR. CLARK: We would be talking then in two areas that these people would be available and one is during the term of agreement.

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MR. CLARK: Because you almost impose upon industry an individual.

THE COMMISSIONER: As well as when the normal steps have been taken without satisfactory results.

MR. CLARK: Would this be opening up collective agreements during the term?

for this. You see, in a collective agreement it is made on the general assumption of the existing conditions, with the possible anticipation in the near future of minor changes, but when you change that fundamental condition under which the negotiation was proceeded with, where you change something radically which modifies the conditions in the industry, you are really departing from the assumed basis of the first agreement, and that is a subject that remains to be worked out, but I think you have to recognize at the beginning as changing the foundation of the agreement which is the assumption of both parties of the existing conditions of work.

Now, you take the ordinary agreement, you see that every day in law.

MR. CLARK: I don't know how Mr. MacPherson would feel, but when you mention a person who can have as many as ten, twelve and thirteen industries and become well acquainted with them and would really serve to resolve the disputes from time to time during the collective agreement, but at the stage of bargaining for renewal I am a little concerned about that without thinking about it more and without knowing.

THE COMMISSIONER: I agree.

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THE COMMISSIONER: You do.

MR. CLARK: My own view would be one individual ought not to be assigned to thirteen industries. I could go along with this Board on application to it, but someone is delegated to do the job.

THE COMMISSIONER: The complaint on both sides is the man doesn't appreciate all the unforseeables of the relations in that industry.

MR. CLARK: That is one of the things we find when they say to the conciliation board, you can't help us conciliation board, you don't know what it is all about.

MR. MacPHERSON: It is not to take one man?

It is not left to the control of one person but a panel

and from that panel to select the person qualified to deal.

or five or half a dozen commissioners, and each is delegated to certain industries, but in the course of their discussion in joint session they change views, as you do in the ordinary courts. One man has devoted most of his life to one branch of law but the principles of say, interpretation, the attitude, the fundamental assumptions that are made there are the same for the whole field almost, and it is an easy transition from the twelve subjects to one hundred subjects.

MR. CLARK: Would we contemplate a person serving in this capacity for example, during the term of the collective agreement where there is a problem on application by either party, would go immediately to the scene and attempt to resolve it, but failing a solution it would go to the panel?

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THE COMMISSIONER: You could get the whole panel to sit on it.

MR. MacPHERSON: This would be a great help in minor matters.

THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, yes, these are minor.

MR. MacPHERSON: It seems the difficulty in leaving the control to one man is giving a little too much authority.

THE COMMISSIONER: There is no doubt that has been thought by thousands of workmen and certainly hundreds of employers for years.

MR. CLARK: You say it works in Australia?

THE COMMISSIONER: They accept it, and as far as I can see they won't change it.

MR. MacPHERSON: If I may say a word in connection with so-called compulsory arbitration, it seems to me that has become a bugaboo. It has really not the significance normally attributed to those frightening results that would come from someone imposing his will on another, because as you indicated earlier we are all subject to that. We live by the law and are supposed to. I see nothing wrong with it and as long as I am associated with matters relating to labour management problems the more I am getting to the point, personally, of feeling that some type, some concept of arbitration is the answer.

I am a little fearful of this conciliation process being the be-all and end-all of the matter. The people say it is a matter of economic strength and they are testing each other economically. The construction industry doesn't provide a security of economic strength one

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would perhaps see in a factory.

In an industry people are on a seniority list.

They normally have no other job to which they can go if
the plant shuts down. In construction the work force is
a floating work force, as recognized by such things as
unemployment insurance, vacation with pay and the method
of handling the stamps.

THE COMMISSIONER: By the way, may I interrupt you just a moment? What is the record of it respecting unemployment insurance, where a strike has gone on and has been in existence for some time?

MR. MacPHERSON: As you are probably aware there are three stages with two stages of appeal. There is the original ruling made normally and then the appeal. By the time they get to --

THE COMMISSIONER: I mean --

MR. MacPHERSON: In the unemployment insurance the consequence of an application for unemployment insurance during a strike I would not be prepared to say. There is no hard and fast rule. I think these things are judged on their merits.

THE COMMISSIONER: Discretionary?

MR. MacPHERSON: I think it is discretionary.

By the time it gets through to the final umpire you might have reversed the original decision.

MR. POLLOCK: There is a rule of thumb or regulation, or whatever, I understand which exists, and it is depending on whether or not the company is back to production, I think to eighty-five percent of its original production.

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MR. MacPHERSON: I don't know, Mr. Pollock, but in the area of the construction field there is an entirely different type of employment than in the seniority setup in a plant. Consequently, a few pickets at a strike stage can stop entirely an employer's revenue producing operation, while the remainder of the work force moves over to another employer or even to another community and continues to work without any real adverse effect. Perhaps there should be some type of balancing in the construction industry as an example of the so-called test of economic strength.

The other feature Mr. Clark mentioned I think is the underlying concern of the Chamber of Commerce -- and I am perhaps speaking out of turn as speaking for the Chamber because I am only a member, and Mr. Clark and Mr. Andrews are the officers, but I feel --

MR. POLLOCK: It is a democracy.

MR. MacPHERSON: I usually say what I think,
Mr. Pollock, wherever it leads me. The Chamber of Commerce
must, if it is going to serve a useful function in a community, be representative of all the community and not
simply for a part. It should not simply represent business
and big business, it should be a community organization
and this is the basis upon which we have come here today.
We are trying to be of any assistance we can to you. We
are expressing the community views and not the views of
management, and when we say we think interim injunctions
should be continued, we think a full understanding of how
an ex parte injunction is obtained, how an interim injunction is continued and perhaps how a permanent

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injunction is obtained, that a full understanding of that should be had by those who raise their voices in outcry and say this is a dreadful thing.

I think there is a lack of education and it would be interesting to know how many occasions have arisen where the outcry took place and where the unions who do the outcrying were fully aware of what was going on. I think particularly that Peterborough's situation which was a dreadful exhibition did. There the solicitor for the union was fully aware of what was going on. There was no mystery about it and yet we have people in high places, highly placed in labour circles, who said, "Defy the law, the law is bad, therefore defy it." We do not think that is the answer, we think if the law is bad law, change the legislation and convince them to change the law, but not by force.

When you move into a sphere of an interim injunction let them find out what it is and what is an exparte injunction? I would like to discuss it with any one of them. If, as an employer, I am trying to protect my property, my person and my family from damage or from injury, shouldn't I have the protection of the court? I think I am entitled to that and I do not think mob violence should rule this. I do not think disorder or weight of numbers should determine whether an issue is right or wrong. Why a complaint if the number of pickets are limited, as long as the message is being put across that is intended? I hope that to be the purpose of picketing.

MR. POLLOCK: On that point it is a question of whether the message is to be whispered or broadcast, as I

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understand the position on picketing. If you say it is communication of information you have to go one step further and say communication of support for this union, so people do not get the mistaken impression that only two or three are supporting it, the union leaders, and the people aren't supporting it at all.

MR. MacPHERSON: I think, Mr. Pollock, in this age most people are able to read and if the pickets are carrying signs saying that all the personnel of this plant, all the members of Local X or whatever it happens to be supported the action of these pickets, or signs stating the company is unfair and doing so and so, surely it gets the message across.

I don't want to be interfered with walking down the street as you and I were in the newspaper strike. Why should I be jostled when I am in the lawful pursuit of my business?

MR. POLLOCK: You are the member of the public or someone going in?

MR. MacPHERSON: I am just going by the building there on the sidewalk on which these people are showing people accidentally, of course. No one would suggest they are doing it deliberately but why should I be jostled?

MR. POLLOCK: Were they obstructing?

MR. MacPHERSON: This was one minor incident of what I thought is improper picketing. There must be other areas where salutary measures could be taken to avoid the really vicious type conflict that sometimes develops between an employer and a work force.

I think people should be getting very close

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now if they are becoming enlightened -- and we are not retrogressing instead of progressing -- we should be getting to the point where some reason should be used to discuss matters, instead of brickbats or shooting holes in milk trucks. It seems odd that we are going backwards.

MR. POLLOCK: The argument of jostling people on the sidewalk wouldn't pertain to a plant in an industrial location where the public never ever goes.

MR. MacPHERSON: An industrial location? I don't know what you mean by that.

MR. POLLOCK: As opposed to where the newspapers are located in Toronto.

MR. MacPHERSON: Do you know where the Ford

Motor Company is? It is on both sides of Riverside Drive.

As Mr. Clark mentioned earlier in 1944 or 1945, it is so

long ago I have forgotten, we had a situation where people

took cars --

MR. POLLOCK: That clearly falls in your first case. I can --

MR. MacPHERSON: But that is an industrial area.

MR. POLLOCK: Let me modify it by an adjective, an isolated industrial area. Where in an isolated industrial area is that factor? What you find revolting is the fact people walking down the sidewalk on lawful occasions are jostled by other people or interfered with because that is a criminal offence in any event.

MR. MacPHERSON: People are interfered with by their property taken or damage.

MR. POLLOCK: That is a criminal offence

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whether the persons are on strike or not on strike.

MR. MacPHERSON: I know, Mr. Pollock, but if there was a limit on the situation before it got started, if there was some method, and this is what the Commissioner may have as an ultimate goal, let us try and stop the offences before they get started. If we can, let us get legislative procedure but a procedure in any event by which all these difficulties can be resolved, through either a negotiated method or if you can't settle it that way, through an arbitrated method. Isn't this a lot better than having a demonstration by force?

MR. POLLOCK: There is no question about that, it is a question of can you do that?

MR. MacPHERSON: Let us go one step further.

In fact, a situation arose ten or twenty years ago when

if you were driving your car down Riverside Drive the car

was stopped. You were asked to get out and the car was

then put into a jam. Who are you going to prosecute? Do

you know the name of the gentleman who took you out of

your car? I don't think you would. You would have a dif
ficult time finding out who you were going to lay the

charge against.

The next step, when are unions as such going to accept the responsibilities commensurate with the rights which they assert they should have? They assert rights they wish to have in the negotiation of a contract. The Labour Relations Act makes some pretence of responsibility but not full responsibility. This again is something we advocate through the brief you already have from the Ontario Chamber, that there be a full acceptance by unions of

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their responsibility, knowing they have the strength which they obviously have.

They should accept this responsibility which you have and I have and any other legal entity has, in relationship one to another and to the public at large. This is the crux of a great many of our problems. If we could get this resolved that they have a full appreciation of this responsibility then we needn't worry too much about criminal prosecution in the hands of the employer. Some one will tell you the Labour Relations Act says you can prosecute me if I do such and such. Doesn't this make for a nice happy family and a nice future for our relationship as employer and employee. The employee can say you have prosecuted me through the criminal court under the Labour Relations Act and this doesn't help. It should be washed out.

MR. POLLOCK: Wash out all prosecutions under the Labour Relations Act?

MR. MacPHERSON: Not private prosecutions.

MR. POLLOCK: You want somebody else to be the monkey's paw?

MR. MacPHERSON: No, but I shouldn't be as an employer the monkey's paw. It should be the Queen and charge in the Criminal Court is on the information of so and so and the Queen is saying something about you and me.

MR. POLLOCK: It is on the information of an individual who has reason to believe what he is charging.

MR. MacPHERSON: That is fine, but the prosecutor is the Queen in our jurisdiction, and yet under the Labour Relations Act neither the Crown, the Attorney-



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General's office, or any other law enforcement officer will take part in that prosecution. This is left to a private prosecutioner and Your Lordship has far more knowledge of this philosophy than I. I am appalled by the term "Private prosecution". I never quite understood it.

admit this. The basic principle of our common law was we had to rely upon the whole mass of the population to bring to the notice of the courts objectionable criminal actions as distinguished say from the French system; the system in France where you have a prosecutor who will determine whether proceedings will be initiated. Our idea is that any member of the public can institute the proceedings that may lead to conviction of violations of our laws.

MR. MacPHERSON: This is all very well, but -THE COMMISSIONER: What you have in mind is
that we look to the employer to take the steps and he is
in danger of worsening relations with all his men in the
future.

MR. CLARK: I think it is a very real danger and one I encountered in a set of circumstances. I asked the Attorney-General at the time, some four or five years ago, if he would instruct the Crown Attorney to continue with the prosecution. He was horrified with the notion and we took it on, as so-called private prosecution and a conviction was granted against a ranking officer of one of the unions.

THE COMMISSIONER: They do not hesitate to do that in England.

MR. CLARK: The Crown people?

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THE COMMISSIONER: No, the individual.

MR. CLARK: To me it is very distasteful and I don't like it. I think if there is a prosecution it should be done in the normal procedure by the legal Crown.

The next step was the appeal from that conviction, so then I suggested to the local Crown Attorney he take on the matter of the appeal. He said, "No, this is your baby, you keep going with it." After considering the possible implications of this we would go through an application for a trial de novo to the county judge and, having in mind the financial backing for this gentleman, an appeal to the Court of Appeal assuming it would end there, it would still mean two more hearings. I had to ask my employer, "If you want to really burn this chap and be mean and miserable you will have to spend one thousand dollars and we will hang onto it." Is this sensible? I think it is absolutely ridiculous. That is one area I meant to comment on on the prosecution aspect.

MR. POLLOCK: Are you with prosecution still?

A few years back, I think thirty years which is some considerable time, this is hearsay, but there was an attitude that prevailed at least in some provinces, with the very strict enforcement of the watching and besetting section of the Criminal Code, much to the apparent dissatisfaction of the employers. They kept saying to these people, "Lay off, it is a labour dispute." It is not for me to stop prosecuting these people it was the Crown doing it.

MR. MacPHERSON: I know, but you skipped one step. You are already at the Crown doing the whole job.

MR. POLLOCK: That is right, they lay the



action and they do everything.

MR. MacPHERSON: I am not at all adverse to the concept of the employer or his representative giving the facts, or even signing the information. It is the matter of following through the confrontation in the courtroom head to head, because it looks as though I am pursuing you down the line.

MR. POLLOCK: The fact that the information comes from the company, and obviously the evidence is going to have to come from the informant, he is going to have to step in that box and testify against his people. The damage is done. The only thing you say by having the Crown do it is you save the cost of hiring a solicitor and counsel at this step. That is a different question.

MR. MacPHERSON: Perhaps one more fee. The situation I encountered I asked, "Are we going to pursue, pursue, pursue this man?" How far do you go? And then after you have a dissenting judgment in the Court of Appeal do you go on to the Supreme Court of Canada? It looks like you are pursuing.

MR. POLLOCK: You are pursuing because you want to keep appealing.

MR. MacPHERSON: I see Mr. Hoffa is doing that.

Whether I am obtaining your agreement or your disagreement
I am expressing my view, and not that of the Chamber of
Commerce, I think it is quite wrong the Labour Relations
Act should put the onus on the employer to follow through
all the prosecutions. I think if there are any prosecutions they should be dealt with in the same manner as
any evidence of any other suits.



THE COMMISSIONER: Unless you have an officer of the Labour Tribunal or Labour Board, go along as part of his duty so he could act independently of both parties.

MR. MacPHERSON: That would perhaps be a better solution.

MR. POLLOCK: Let me draw another parallel. I don't want to appear to argue with you and if I am it is in the antithesis sense to verify the thought. I am not saying your thought isn't pure. If we can draw a parallel to the situation where most of the private complaints are lodged under the Criminal Code, you would probably find the false pretences and bad cheque instances being used most often, which is normal. What happens is the informant swears the information that such and such gave a bad cheque.

MR. MacPHERSON: I don't know what the percentages are.

MR. POLLOCK: In the interim period of time the fellow comes along and pays the cheque, and the informant wants to quash the action at the time. Then usually the information is withdrawn and the magistrate sometimes makes a speech and says, "You are using the courts for a collection agency and we will charge you twenty-five dollars costs."

In these circumstances where you have an employer bringing his action against the employee for an offence, he is the one that has all the facts. He is the one on the job and he has to testify. He is incurring all the wrath of the individual and only saving the expense. His employer-employee relations are not going



to be any better because he is no longer the informant and if you are no longer counsel.

MR. CLARK: Let us take it to conclusion.

As far as you are concerned we should eliminate it altogether.

MR. POLLOCK: I can see where employers have taken a hard line and perhaps incurred a little wrath on the part of the employees after they have a considerable length of industrial peace because the employees know this is the agreement. But when the wrath is incurred they will say we won't try to enter into a settlement, we will withdraw.

MR. CLARK: I am for suggesting to the then Attorney-General to say, "If you think this is a good law and you put it on your books you enforce it.

If you don't think it is one you should enforce, bring in a bill at the next session and take it out."

MR. POLLOCK: The Labour Relations Act?

MR. CLARK: Take out the sections on

prosecution.

MR. POLLOCK: They are saying we will not enforce it unless you feel it is important. You are the employer you proceed.

MR. MacPHERSON: I don't think this is a proper approach at all. If you are going to create a quasi criminal offence — in fact a criminal offence because of the nature of the proceedings — you should finally go ahead and enforce it. If you don't want to enforce it take away the implication of the offence, at least be forthright about it. I don't want to take up

interfered.

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THE COMMISSIONER: I appreciate your expression of views, Mr. MacPherson, that is what we are looking for. Men who have experience and what they think about possible changes.

too much time, Mr. Commissioner, I shouldn't have

MR. MacPHERSON: There were some areas you mentioned to Mr. Clark about the type of person in the judicial capacity and we have had -- I personally have had -- some very fine experience with men who came up through the organizational aspect of the Steelworkers and Teamsters, sitting as chairman of arbitration boards and as conciliation people, and what you said earlier has great merit. First of all having the capability and secondly having gone through a sound period of training I think this is a very fruitful source for people of this kind.

THE COMMISSIONER: I don't think there is any doubt about it. As you say, they have the capacity for the job.

MR. MacPHERSON: We have heard something about this matter about strike breaking. Perhaps I have not been too close to that but I am somewhat baffled by the representation that injunctions lead to engagement of people who go in and do strike breaking.

THE COMMISSIONER: All that was meant was the injunction opens the door.

MR. MacPHERSON: I can assure you as a practical man in this community no one would be foolhardy enough to set out on such a course.





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What we recognize and I hope in the position I have got, in my relationship with resident officers of the unions, the locals, I try to recognize this isn't a one-way street. There are rights on both sides. I only become upset and perhaps more annoyed than I should when I find an unreasoning approach, when somebody says, "This has got to be it. There is no other way to go." This is a hard line and there is no versatility with this.

MR. POLLOCK: You wouldn't quarrel in this community, if what you represent is the case, you wouldn't quarrel with a condition of the injunction that no outside strike breakers be engaged during the currency of the injunction?

MR. MacPHERSON: The only thing is this is a rather sweeping statement to make, because first of all there are some areas in which the strike should not be allowed and at the moment they are as Mr. Clark has pointed out.

MR. POLLOCK: Let us talk about clearly those disputes in the private sector.

MR. MacPHERSON: As long as we get into that I can say that your first premise was a little different approach for me. In a private quarrel between (a) the employer and (b) a local union, nothing would please me more than to have this simply a head on problem. They fight it out and each one has exactly the same responsibilities and exactly the same rights, and if the union can't work neither should the employer, and very soon you will find a settlement, but if you



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have a situation of an employer continuing his operation or the employees keeping him shut down and they can get work elsewhere, you don't have the equality.

THE COMMISSIONER: That is exactly the line I was inviting.

MR. MacPHERSON: Thank you for your indulgence.

MR. POLLOCK: On the premise we would get into the public interest area, I want to ask one question about that. There are two aspects of the public interest, the physical aspect in which the public is concerned, the violence the people on the sidewalk with the interference with the general public, which occurs in every dispute, and I think you would have to accept there is some inconvenience every facet of the public experiences in every strike, the shortage of goods. A minor inconvenience I might say jocularly.

MR. MacPHERSON: A strike in the communications medium, a newspaper strike.

MR. POLLOCK: That might get more of the public interest.

MR. MacPHERSON: A radio station strike where a news dissemination is interfered with. This might be any type of interference.

MR. POLLOCK: That is of a different nature. That more properly falls in public interest, depending on the type of service. I want to ask this question. Do you make the distinction on public interest on the nature of the services, or on the employer? I can conceive of a lot of public institutions that are



run, or a lot of enterprises run as public institutions, which neither the municipality, government or provincial government or federal government, be they wholly-owned Crown corporations, which in some areas are considered to be public interest matters. There are others which on the other hand, the service is performed by a private contractor. A garbage collector in some jurisdictions is paid by the city and in other cities it is by individual contract.

MR. MacPHERSON: If garbage collection it should be in the excluded area.

MR. POLLOCK: You would agree it is the nature of the services that is the controlling factor as to public interest, as we do have two national shareholders, one is government-owned and the other privately, and assuming they compete, if there was a strike in the government there wouldn't be any distinction whether it was government or privately-owned in your consideration?

MR. MacPHERSON: The government-owned railway or airline, as compared to C.P.A., I think presents an entirely different type. This doesn't strike me the same at all as what you might say was the government subsidized industry. As the Commissioner indicated earlier there is so much public money being funnelled into various sources of business. The I.D.B. and the O.D.B.

MR. POLLOCK: It is not only the money but the protective operations that exist to keep them in business.



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MR. MacPHERSON: To what extent you are going to say they are subsidized, I don't know.

MR. POLLOCK: If you have to trace the pocketbook, the pay cheque to the source of income, you could say a great number of things are public interest and some things are not. If the public interest is affected by a rail strike are they affected in the same way by a strike of Canadian Pacific Airlines?

MR. MacPHERSON: I perhaps lost you on the second turn with the airlines. I agree and go back to the same acknowledgment I made earlier. It is the type or nature of the operation not the individual employer. In these things I am directly concerned and affected by such things, as public utilities.

We had a situation develop not too long ago in connection with the local gas company, which is a quasi public utility, not publicly owned but a utility on which many of us depend. It is that type of thing, anything that interferes with the way we live goes right back to the public interest and I think this is public interest.

THE COMMISSIONER: There is no doubt about that at all. You can strangle the life of our country by a strike of the railways.

You raised a question in the construction industry and employers and unions are in agreement.

They both agree this is a different industry than anything else. One of the difficulties the unions complain about is it is difficult for them to get into a certification position with the time delay.





MR. MacPHERSON: I have been involved with the local construction association now directly for the last nineteen years, and I think the majority of employers in the construction field are members of the association.

MR. POLLOCK: Probably true but there is a minority. We had an example yesterday where a subcontractor under contract to the general contractor was engaging a union not a member of the local Building and Trades Council. A union coming from Hamilton and a union which was of non A.F.L. or C.L.C. affiliation.

MR. MacPHERSON: Just a moment, this is getting into a philosophy I don't want to debate. We could take days. One quick answer to that is, if a union is a union within the meaning of the Labour Relations Act and the Ontario Labour Relations Board has granted it a certificate it is a union whether it is ABC or XYZ.

MR. POLLOCK: Fine, let us modify the example to avoid that. Let us make it a non-union group and the rest of the people on the job and the union go on strike, and the court looks at that and says, "Well, do you represent this employer?" This employer is the plasterer who brought in the non-union men. The union will say no. The court will ask, "Have you been certified by him?" The union will say, "No". The court will say, "You have to get certified to have a legal strike. You must be certified."

The picketing is no good. And the complaints by the carpenters is that when they go on the



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job the carpentry work might last two or three weeks and by the time the floating work force goes to work for employer X and makes the application for certification the job is over.

MR. MacPHERSON: I think this cuts both ways. There are many certificates granted with respect to unions in the construction field, where they in effect hold the certificates over the head of the employers and use it as a weapon to make sure the employer asks for them. I think it cuts both ways.

MR. POLLOCK: You probably then will agree there is some room for modification?

MR. MacPherson: I think there is room for improvement. For example you might say this, rather than have the union or employer to declare a job an entire union job, so you avoid the jurisdictional quarrel or non-union quarrel, let somebody else decide whether it is union or non-union job and get off the problem.

THE COMMISSIONER: There is no doubt it is a difficult subject to deal with.

Mr. Clark, you have something more to say. I was going to give you ten minutes for a breather.

MR. CLARK: There are just two or three things I would like to mention and some are just an enlargement of what Mr. MacPherson had to say. There is an area that concerns smaller employers and the Chamber is made up of a lot of little people.



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You may have the situation of a general contractor who is not unionized in a community and he takes on a contract, bids on it and he may base his bid on that. But the subcontractors are unionized and if he brings them in all of a sudden the roof falls in. He is presented with a contract and he is obliged to sign it to get the job completed.

This is an area I believe under the Ontario Labour Relations Act which is not sufficiently covered. The remedy section I draw it to your attention because I think there are a number of employers and their employees who are in a position they do not want unions at all. However, if he employs a subcontractor who is unionized the conditions have changed and the smaller general contractor in these circumstances may have underbid on a job and may be working on a job where he is losing a considerable amount of money. That is one area.

I listened to the discussion with respect to the public interest and related to the nature of the industry. I rather look at it in a larger aspect. Take this city, take one large employer and I don't care in what they are engaged, if that strike goes on long enough almost every segment of this city's economy is affected, and that is the public. So in my judgment this is where the public interest is involved.

The public has an interest, the little storekeeper on the corner, the hotel keeper, any number of them. The public does have some interest in situations like this being avoided because they are affecting





everybody in the community.

In respect to interim injunctions I have a feeling people refer to them with a wide brush. I agree with Mr. MacPherson that they are not understood. In my experience in this city in seeking injunctions — true, ex parte without notice to the other side — they have been continued and in most cases on consent of union counsel, because the purpose for which they were sought was to keep the power house going so there would be heat in the plant and the pipes would not freeze and this sort of thing.

I am afraid this aspect of interim injunctions is being overlooked and we want that part preserved and it should be preserved.

Now, with respect to the right to be sued we think the unions should be in the same position as the employers and the union resources being available to an employer for the sake of getting at these resources. We think it would affect a greater discipline upon the union membership if you make the purse of the union available to employers who have a good cause of action. Then I think you will find you will have a greater discipline. Most of the membership of the union say they are not exposed to suits today. You don't have this.

We run into situations where heads of trade unions say, "We can't control them, we tried."

They have remedies within their own constitution, and in these days where seniority is important in a union shop, if a member is not going to behave and conduct





himself properly and is expelled from the union he can't
continue his work with the employer. This is the aspect
I think is important because unions will not let them-
selves get into a position if their purse is effected.
I rather think it is a deterrent rather than the benefit
of any money recovered from the unions.

MR. POLLOCK: Do you think you would run into the same difficulty by suing the union as the family relations difficulty raised by Mr. MacPherson earlier?

MR. CLARK: I don't think it has the same taint as a criminal prosecution.

MR. POLLOCK: Even though the criminal prosecution might be limited to fines?

MR. CLARK: Right. I don't think it is the same and I think it is one of Mr. MacPherson's points and I think a good one, I don't think it contributes to future relationship to have the employer prosecuting an employee for a criminal offence.

MR. POLLOCK: You can prosecute a union.
MR. CLARK: I know.

MR. POLLOCK: You can take an effective action against the union you know. That is the abhorrent feature Mr. MacPherson raises. It is a man taking action against his own people. If you sue them do you think there is a difference?

MR. CLARK: I think there is.

MR. MacPHERSON: You sue the union.

MR. POLLOCK: You can prosecute under the Labour Relations Act.

MR. CLARK: It is a great deal more





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difficult than prosecuting individuals.

MR. POLLOCK: In both cases you can sue individuals. Now if an individual throws a stone through your window and damages it or burns your plant--

MR. MacPHERSON: If you can identify him.

MR. POLLOCK: You have to identify him to make the union liable. In the Ford case you would have to identify the union with the activities of those who commandeered the cars. Do you think the union leaders and the union as an entity would counsel and support the stealing of cars, or commandeering of cars for this purpose? Obviously it was done by individual people.

MR. MacPHERSON: No, no. I think this is the area where you have to get the union to show it did not. Put it the other way round, they must show they did everything they could to discourage this.

MR. POLLOCK: To take positive steps to avoid liability?

THE COMMISSIONER: Gentlemen, we are very much obliged to both of you this morning.

MR. POLLOCK: I think Mr. Clark had some other material. I think you are submitting it to us in written form rather than an oral presentation, is that correct?

MR. CLARK: Yes, I have to return to my office. I could bring it back this afternoon or you may wish to conclude and I could mail it.

MR. POLLOCK: We are a captive audience until 5:30 or so.



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MR. CLARK: Then would it be convenient if I returned at 2:00 o'clock and file it with you? If you have any questions we will be glad to answer.

THE COMMISSIONER: Fine, then we will adjourn until 2:00 o'clock.

MR. POLLOCK: Unless Mr. Andrews has anything to add.

MR. ANDREWS: After hearing the discussion of my learned friends I will let them do the talking.

MR. MacPHERSON: I wonder, Mr. Pollock, do you suppose any of the individuals who are here would want to say anything?

THE COMMISSIONER: Any person who would like to make a statement of any kind may do so here.

MR. POLLOCK: I take it by the silence there is not anybody.

THE COMMISSIONER: Then we will adjourn until 2:00 o'clock this afternoon.

--- At 11:50 A.M., the hearing adjourned to resume at 2:00 P.M.

--- At 2:00 P.M. the hearing resumed.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Clark?

MR. CLARK: Mr. Commissioner, Mr. Pollock, I have Mr. Clarence Marintette of the Canadian Rock Salt Company Limited and I have prepared the submission as a result of some discussions in Toronto, at the time of the presentation of the Ontario brief, and I merely propose to file it and make it part of your record. It is





factual and I am not presenting any argument at all. It it should happen you require something further then I will be available on your call. I will make it available to you in four copies.

THE COMMISSIONER: That is plenty, thank you.

MR. POLLOCK: We need five.

MR. CLARK: There you are. I have the original for Xerox copies. We have five sets of briefs.

MR. POLLOCK: Well, if there is nobody else, if you are not going to make any comment I am sure we don't have enough time to read a brief and ask any intelligent questions, so I think if there is no one else here who wants to make any submissions to the Commission in the City of Windsor, I think we can adjourn the sitting.

THE COMMISSIONER: Is there any person who would care to make a statement of any sort?

MR. POLLOCK: There is no answer.

THE COMMISSIONER: Then we will adjourn this sine die. Mr. Clark, thank you.

---At 2:05 P.M., the hearing adjourned.











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